

Ellen Lewis
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Monroe, CT 06468
HB 5537

March 12, 2014

Dear CT PHC Testimony,

Dear Senator Gerratana, Representative Johnson, and esteemed members of the Public Health Committee:

I write to ask you to strongly support and vote in the affirmative to add bill language for the modernization of the CT Naturopathic physician scope of practice to HB 5537. The language needs to be attached to this bill so it can come before the Public Health Committee for consideration. This Naturopathic scope of practice law is 90 years old and has not kept pace with the significant advances in education and training of Naturopathic doctors in the ensuing decades.

As a former faculty member at the Naturopathic College in Oregon with a very expansive scope, and a current faculty member in the Naturopathic Clinic at the University of Bridgeport, I see the impact that the limited scope has had on the education of students at UB. This scope expansion is ESSENTIAL to the education of our future physicians.

I relocated back to my homestate of Connecticut to bring naturopathic care to a community that is demanding it. In order to provide the highest quality of care to my patients and meet their primary care needs, changes need to be made to the current scope.

I wholeheartedly support the proposed scope changes and request you consider them as well. Healthcare is changing. The proposed expansion is consistent with scopes across states.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

In Health,
ELLEN LEWIS, ND